Pre-matric and post-matric scholarships for OBC students

3987. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether pre-matric and post-matric scholarships for OBC students have been extended to Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of OBC students in each category presently in receipt of the scholarships?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The Government is implementing the Schemes of Pre-matric Scholarships and Post-matric Scholarships for OBC Students throughout the country including Andhra Pradesh.

Under the Pre-matric Scheme, Scholarships are awarded to OBC students studying at pre-matric stage and whose parents'/guardians' income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 44,500/-. 50% Central assistance is provided to State Government over and above the committed liability.

Under the Post-matric Scheme, Scholarships are awarded to OBC students studying post-matriculation/post-secondary stage and whose parents'/guardians' income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 44,500/-. t00% Central assistance is provided to State Government over and above the committed liability.

(c) Rs. 6.45 crores for 136598 OBC students and Rs. 2.48 crores for 14250 OBC students have been released to Government of Andhra Pradesh during the financial year 2002-2003 under the Centrally sponsored scheme of PFe-matric and Post-matric Scholarships for OBC Students, respectively.

Welfare measures for disabled persons

3988. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that in United States, the term 'Handicap' is not used to refer to disabled persons;